Abstract

HEPATOCYTE GROWTH FACTOR VARIANTS

Serine proteases factor XIa and kallikrein cleave and activate HGF. Cleavage is at two sites: a typical cleavage site, Arg494-Val495, and a novel cleavage site, Arg424-His425. Variant HGF fragments obtained by cleaving at one or both of these sites may be useful as agonists or antagonists of HGF. Variants or fragments obtained by modifying these cleavage sites so as to be resistant to kallikrein and/or FXIa cleavage are also provided.